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A gynandromorph of the small ermine moth, *Yponomeuta cagnagellus* (Hb.) (Lepidoptera, Yponomeutidae)

by

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In 1971 this department started a research project on the taxonomical relations between the European forms of the genus *Yponomeuta*, the small ermine moths.

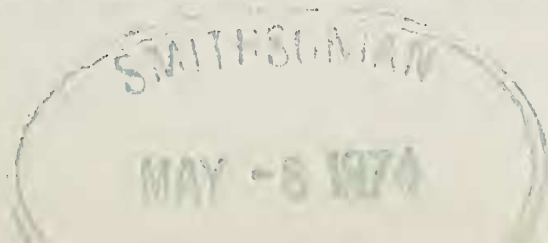
The ermines of *Malus*, *Salix*, *Crataegus* and *Euonymus* in particular are very closely related; some authors (e.g. FRIESE, 1960) even consider them races of one single species, *Yponomeuta padellus* (L.). For convenience we use the name *Y. padellus* for the form living on *Crataegus*, and *Y. cagnagellus* for the specimens from *Euonymus*.

Finding morphological differences between moths reared from the mentioned host plants is one part of our project. Among various structural features studied are the genitalia.

When making mounts of several hundreds of genitalia we found a gynandromorph of *Y. cagnagellus*. According to a personal communication from Dr. A. DIAKONOFF (Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, Holland) such an abnormality has not been described in *Yponomeuta* up till now, so it seemed worth while to mention and illustrate it here (Fig. 1—2).

The (male) right half is normally developed. The left half shows a small and distorted valva, while it lacks the socius and the gnathos. In this side several female structures can be seen, such as an anal papilla and several apophyses. An illustration of the normal female genitalia is added for comparison (Fig. 3).

There are no notable differences in outer features between the left and right



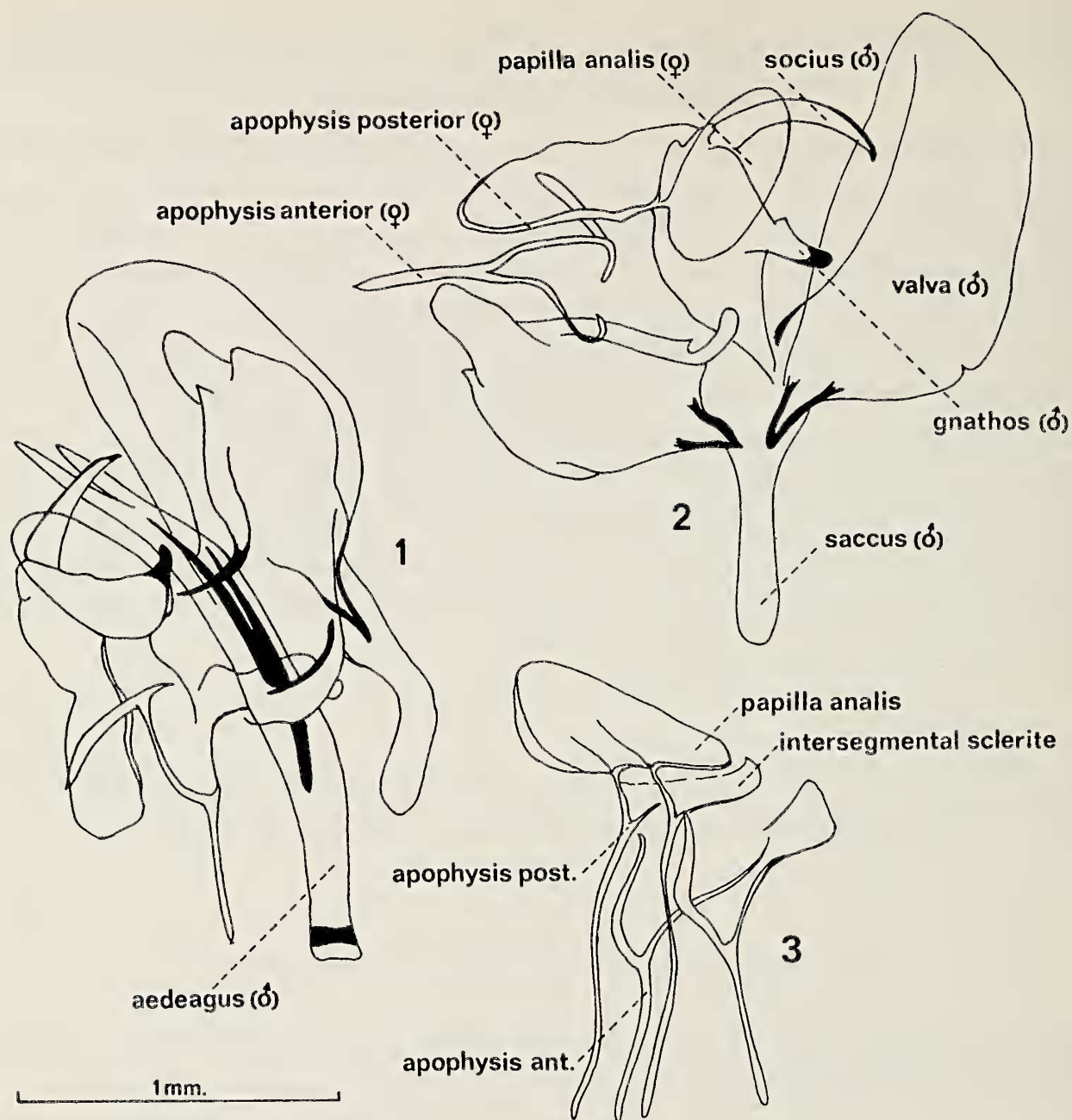


Fig. 1. Gynandromorphous genitalia of *Yponomeuta cagnagellus* (Hb.) from *Euonymus*: Meyendel Dunes, Wassenaar, Holland, 29.6.1971. Left lateral aspect.

Fig. 2. Idem: Ventral aspect, aedeagus omitted.

Fig. 3. Female genitalia of *Yponomeuta cagnagellus* (Hb.), same data. Left lateral aspect, bursa omitted.

halves of the specimen, with exception of the frenulum. The latter is of the female type (split) in the left hindwing, and male (non-split) in the right one.

Reference

FRIESE, G., 1960. Revision der paläarktischen Yponomeutidae unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Genitalien. *Beitr. Ent.* 10 (1—2): 1—130.

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